

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed February 24, 2006. In order to advance prosecution of this case, Applicants amend Claim 3 as required by the Office Action. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to Claim 3 because of informalities. Applicants amend Claim 3 as required by the Office Action.

Section 102 Rejections

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0002955 A1 of Gadbois ("*Gadbois*"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons stated below.

Claim 1 is directed to a Web Services Directory that includes at least one Business Entity object and at least one User object. The Business Entity object is arranged under the User object. *Gadbois* does not disclose, teach or suggest each of these limitations.

The Office Action suggests that the "HOST" 210 of FIGURE 2 of *Gadbois* is a User object as defined by Claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree. There is no suggestion in *Gadbois* that HOST 210 is a User object. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from *Gadbois*.

Claims 2-6 each depend, either directly or indirectly, from Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2-6 are patentably distinguishable from *Gadbois* for example, for the same reasons discussed above with regard to Claim 1.

Claim 7 is directed to a Web Services system that includes a registry comprising a hierarchical directory including at least one Business Entity object and at least one User object. The Office Action contends that these limitations are disclosed at Paragraphs 25-27 of *Gadbois*. Applicants respectfully disagree. For example, *Gadbois* does not disclose, teach

or suggest a hierarchical directory that includes at least one User object. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully contend that Claim 7 is patentably distinguishable from *Gadbois*.

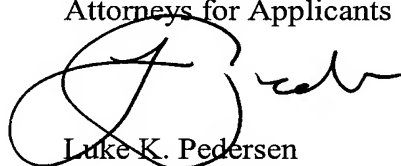
Conclusions

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending Claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicants stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

Applicants believe no fee is due. However, should there be a fee discrepancy, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. **02-0384** of **Baker Botts L.L.P.**

Respectfully submitted,

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